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COMMENTS

RE: U.S. Application Serial No. 09/475,531

Please review the attached outline and contact me at 404.685.6799.

Thanks,

Brenda Holmes

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DRAFT - NOT FOR ENTRY**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:)
)
W. David Conley)
)
Serial No.: 09/475,531) Art Unit: 2643
)
Filed: December 30, 1999)
) Examiner: Nguyen, D.
For: Method and System for Charging A Set)
Activation Fee for Pay Telephone Usage)

OUTLINE FOR PROPOSED TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

Please consider the proposed amendment and the appended remarks.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

1. A method for providing remote access to a public switched telephone network by offsetting the service cost through charging a set activation fee, comprising:
 - receiving, at a network element, a telephone number and billing information from a set activation fee pay telephone, the set activation fee pay telephone associated with an originating telephone number;
 - determining whether the billing information is valid;
 - if the billing information is valid, then placing a telephone call to the telephone number received from the set activation fee pay telephone;
 - identifying the telephone call as having the originating telephone number associated with the set activation fee telephone; and
 - charging the set activation fee for the telephone call.

REMARKS

In the Official Action dated June 5, 2002, the Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,517,411 to Casner ("Casner") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,745,884 to Carnegie ("Carnegie"). Although Casner describes receiving a called number and billing information, Casner only describes operation within a private branch exchange (PBX). Column 1, line 45 to 60. Carnegie is also limited to operation within a PBX. In contrast, the claimed invention recites a network element rather than a PBX. The foregoing proposed amendment to Claim 1 clarifies that a telephone number and billing information are received at a network element.

Edg 26 2pm

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, a telephone interview with the Examiner to discuss the proposed is respectfully requested. Please contact Brenda Holmes at 404.685.6799 to schedule the interview.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Ozaki Holmes

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